COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

1-9 (canceled).

10. (currently amended) A process for producing the excipient adapted for use in a solid pharmaceutical dosage form, wherein said excipient is in the form of a free-flowing powder and consists essentially of a pharmaceutically acceptable polymer and from 10 to 50% by weight, based on the total weight of said excipient, of a liquid or semisolid solubilizing surface-active substance, wherein the polymer in the excipient is a homo- or copolymer of N-vinylpyrrolidone , which is a water-soluble polymer with Fikentscher K values of from 12 to 100; which comprises either spray-drying a solution comprising the surface-active substance and the pharmaceutically acceptable polymer, or processing the polymer and the surface-active substance in an extruder to obtain a homogeneous melt and subsequently converting the melt into the free-flowing powder.

11. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient comprises a surface-active substance which has a drop point in the range from 20 to 40°C.

12. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient comprises a surface-active substance which has an HLB of from 10 to 15.

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient

comprises from 15 to 40% by weight of the surface-active substance.

15. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient comprises ethoxylated sorbitan fatty acid esters as surface-active substances.

16. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient comprises the products of the reaction of ethylene oxide with castor oil, hydrogenated castor oil or with 12-hydroxystearic acid as surface active substance.

17. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient comprises from 20 to 30% by weight of the surface-active substances.

18. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient is in the form of a free-flowing powder of particles having a particle size of from 10 to 1000 μ.

19. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the excipient consists of the polymer and the surface-active substance and optionally one or more ingredients selected from the group consisting of flow regulators, dyes, mold release agents, fats, waxes, disintegrants, bulking agents and other tableting excipients.

20. (previously presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the surface-active substance of the excipient is a non-ionic compound.